HB 6949

Laurie Charleton

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Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and members of the Public Health Committee,

I oppose Raised Bill HB 6949 regarding religious exemption to vaccination. It is against our first amendment right to free exercise of religious beliefs to attach conditions to our right to claim a religious exemption.

I attended the March 18, 2015 hearing and want to comment about an exchange between Rep. Ritter and Dr. Carbonari that children are not forced to get vaccinated, that it's only if they go to school. I hope the rest of the committee members are aware that most children go to school. Therefore, if children go to school and their parents do not want to be forced to sign a statement that they are putting their child and others at risk, then yes, children would be forced to get vaccinated.

Please vote against this unconstitutional bill.

Thank you,

Laurie Charleton